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CELESTINE™

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GLORY CELESTINE

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SHUKK

AND THUS ALL SINNERS, TO THEIR JUST REWARD.

IT IS A WORLD THAT WAS ONCE HOME TO A GREAT, LONG FORGOTTEN CIVILIZATION. NOW, IT IS A RUIN..

..KNOWN ON THE STAR MAPS AS TAKSAN GOMI.

IT HAD BEEN LATELY INVADED BY THE FORCES OF THE GOKIBURI. A GREEDY, CRAVEN RACE WHO YEARN FOR THE DAY...

...WHEN THEY CAN FIGURE OUT HOW TO ACHIEVE UTTER GALACTIC DOMINATION.

...WITHOUT ATTRACTING THE NOTICE OF ANYONE WHO MIGHT HARM THEM.

UNFORTUNATELY, THEY CAUGHT THE WATCHFUL EYE OF **CELESTINE**--LEGENDARY WARRIOR OF THE DIVINE AND IMPLACABLE SERAPHIM--

--ON A HOLY MISSION TO RID THE UNIVERSE OF SIN.

SHE LET THE GOKIBURI SERVE HER. SHE LET THEM PROMISE HER THEIR AID...

...AND TELL HER MANY THINGS SHE COULD USE.

THEN, SHE KILLED THEM.

THEY WERE, AFTER ALL...

...SINNERS.

PART 2

THE DOOMSDAY TALISMAN

AND EVEN SUCH FLAWED VESSELS AS THEY HAVE HAD THEIR USES.

FOR, BEFORE THEY DIED, THE GOKIBURI TOLD HER MUCH.

TOLD HER OF THINGS SHE COULD USE, IN THE SERVICE OF HER DIVINE LORD.

OF A WEAPON THAT HOLDS THE KEY...

...TO UNIVERSAL ANNIHILATION.

A FORCE OF DESTRUCTION SO PURE, IT WIPED OUT EVEN THE SORCERESS WHO MADE IT.

SUCH A WEAPON COULD BE OF GREAT USE...

...IN DESTROYING THE ENEMIES OF THE LORD.

NOT SINCE SHE INITIATED THE DOWNFALL OF SODDOM AND GOMORRAH HAS CELESTINE FELT SUCH SATISFACTION.

HER PLEASURE'S ONLY ALLOY...

...IS THAT THE GOKIBURI'S LEADER--BY THEIR ACCOUNTS. A HUMAN SORCERER OF GREAT EVIL AND MIGHT...

...HAS, BY HIS ABSENCE, EVADED HER RIGHTEOUS WRATH.

IT'S A DISAPPOINTMENT.

SHE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE MET AND EXTERMINATED HIM.

BUT IT WASN'T TO BE.

BAF

HORRIBLE WOMAN. THANK HEAVEN SHE'S GONE.

I MUST ALERT THE HOME-WORLD!

SKFF

HER WORK ON TAKSAN GOMI IS DONE.

NEXT STOP-- EARTH!

OWW...

THIS IS GAILYN HONG. FOR SATELLITE NETWORK NEWS. COMING TO YOU LIVE...

...FROM OUTSIDE MOUNT SOLOMON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, WHERE THE SUPER-HEROINE, GLORY, WAS RUSHED EARLIER TODAY...

...AFTER MYSTERIOUSLY COLLAPSING.

NO WORD YET FROM DOCTORS ON THE CONDITION OF THIS IMMORTAL...

...WHO'S BEEN A IDOL TO MILLIONS OF AMERICANS, SINCE HER PARTICIPATION IN THE OVERTHROW OF AXIS POWERS...

...DURING WORLD WAR II.

RENOWNED SURGEON EDMUND DAEDALUS WAS CALLED IN TO CONSULT ON GLORY'S MYSTERIOUS ILLNESS, AND HE--

--DR. DAEDALUS?!

SIR? ANY WORD FOR OUR VIEWERS?

HOW IS GLORY?

ALL I CAN SAY, GAILYN...

...IS THAT I'M FULLY *SATISFIED* WITH HER CONDITION.

...HEH...

CURSE THAT MAN... RAVENSBANE...

HE WAS HERE, POSING AS DAEDALUS.

IF HE'D HAD *HIS* WAY, I'D BE DEAD.

GLORY! YOU SHOULDN'T BE ON YOUR FEET! YOUR CONDITION--!

I GOT BETTER.

I KNOW EDMUND DAEDALUS IS MIRACLE WORKER. BUT...

THAT *WASN'T* DAEDALUS, DR. DELMONICO. IT WAS AN IMPOSTER.

CALL DAEDALUS'S HOUSE. TELL THEM THAT, AND THAT HE'S NO LONGER NEEDED. I WOULD, BUT I CAN'T STAY.

AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT...

...ALERT THE MEDIA.

WEST ARLINGTON MUSEUM OF FOLKLORE

LOCATED IN QUIET SUBURB OF VIRGINIA...

...THE WEST ARLINGTON MUSEUM OF FOLKLORE IS ONE OF THE LAST PLACES ON EARTH ANYONE WOULD EXPECT TO FIND TROUBLE.

REPOSITORY FOR ARTIFACTS OF THE BIZARRE, IT IS A PLACE WHERE THE FANTASTIC CAN BE STUDIED...

...EXALTED...

...BELIEVED IN, AND APPRECIATED...

...ALL WITHOUT EXPOSING THESE RELICS, AND THE SCHOLARS THAT GUARD THEM...

...TO THE HARSH TESTS OF SKEPTICS...

...AND TO CYNICAL, SHATTERING RIDICULE.

IT IS WHERE WONDERS, BEING BELIEVED IN...

...BECOME POSSIBLE.

SIMON, DEAR. WHAT WAS IN THAT HUGE CRATE THAT CAME ADDRESSED TO YOU, EARLIER?

OH, ERMENTRUDE, IT'S FANTASTIC! IT BELONGED TO AN ANCIENT CHINESE MANDARIN.

ANYTHING YOU SAY.

...WHO WAS RUMORED TO BE ABLE TO BREAK THE BOUNDRIES OF TIME!

CHRISTA, I'M GONNA CHECK UP ON EVERYTHING, 'FORE WE LOCK UP.

SURE THING, KALI.

BE...BE CAREFUL, OKAY?

SIMON IS RIGHT. HIS CABINET IS FANTASTIC.

BUT, IT'S NOTHING, IN COMPARISON TO THIS--

--THE LOST CHALICE OF THE ENCHANTRESS LUWANDA NUMOR...

...POPULARLY KNOWN AS THE TALISMAN OF DOOM.

IT'S BEAUTIFUL...

...AND IT CALLS HER.

IT IS NICE. ISN'T IT?

WHO--?!

THAT'S MY DOING. LUWANDA ONLY CARED ABOUT MAKING IT WORK

I INSISTED IT HAD TO BE PRETTY.

DR. DAEDALUS? WOW! I'VE HEARD OF YOU! BUT, I NEVER KNEW YOU--!

DAEDALUS DIDN'T.

I DID

SORRY ABOUT THE DECEPTION...

...BUT HAVE YOU ANY IDEA HOW TOUGH IT IS TO GET A CAB IN THIS OUTFIT?

LORD RAVENS-BANE?!

MY PUBLIC! HOW THEY LOVE ME.

OF COURSE. NO MEMBER OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC WOULD HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA WHO I AM.

HOW NICE THAT YOUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM PRODUCES INFORMED, PERCEPTIVE GIRLS LIKE YOU.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

NO! I WON'T LET YOU--!

R'ID YOUR TINY HUMAN MIND OF WHATEVER DELUSION YOU MIGHT HAVE THAT ANY OF THIS IS UP TO YOU.

THAT'S BETTER. NOW...

...WHAT WOULD BE A SUITABLE PUNISH-MENT FOR AN ARROGANT GIRL WHO DEFIED ME?

AHH... PERFECT I UNDERSTAND THAT WHILE I WAS TRAPPED IN SPACE..

DID YOU KNOW THAT. LIKE MOST OF THE TOYS YOU COLLECT HERE.

...THIS LITTLE BEAUTY HAS CERTAIN... *INTRINSIC* POWER?

...MANKIND HAD MADE LOVING GARGOYLES QUITE THE PASTIME

ALL IT NEEDED WAS ONE WHO COULD AWAKEN IT GUIDE IT

BIND IT TO HIS SERVICE.

WITH BLOOD

..NOOO..

SEE WHAT YOUR NEW LORD HAS FOR YOU?

SEE WHAT YOUR NEW LORD HAS FOR YOU

SO PRETTY...SO SHINING...

THAT'S ENOUGH!

WHO DO YOU THINK?

WHO..?!

I GOT HERE BEFORE YOU...AND WAITED FOR YOJ TO MAKE YOJR MOVE

YOU'RE STARTING TO ANNOY ME, GLORY

BUT MY POISONOUS LITTLE FAMILIAR WILL MAKE SHORT WORK OF YOU!

GET HER!

I'M COMING, KALI.

POISONOUS...

...ENCHANTED...

...AND IT WON'T STAY STILL.

I HATE THIS!

ZZZAP!

CHRISTA!!

AND THERE ARE OTHER ENCHANTMENTS TO COME!

RAVENSBANE, I'VE COME FOR YOU!!!

I DON'T KNOW *WHO* YOU ARE

CHRISTA. THE ENGRAVINGS FROM THE LOST TEXT OF THE APOCALYPSE...

DO YOU RECOGNIZE HER..?

MY GOD...

HARDLY MERELY THE INSTRUMENT OF HIS DOOM UPON THE UNGODLY

THE INTERSTELLAR VERMIN WHO SERVED THIS WIZARD TOLD ME, BEFORE THEY DIED, WHERE HE COULD BE FOUND

THE GOKIBLIR!? DREADFUL LIARS, THE LOT...

MUSTN'T BELIEVE WHAT THEY...

CELESTINE!!!

AMAZON!

I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE YOU FREED MY SOUL FROM HELL.*

I COULD USE A LITTLE HELP HERE THIS GARGOYLE IS GROWING!

AWAY FROM HER, MONSTER!

*See Glory / Angela #1
~Eric

THANKS. NOW, BEFORE IT STARTS TO GROW AGAIN...

I'D BETTER SWITCH TO A WEAPON THAT CAN DO MORE GOOD

WHAT YOU DO IS YOUR OWN AFFAIR.

MY DEBT TO YOU IS PAID.

WHAT?!

I WENT THROUGH HELL FOR YOU. I RISKED ETERNAL DAMNATION.

AND YOU THINK THAT'S REPAID WITH ONE GOOD PUNCH?

SLASH!!

YOU ARE UNBELIEV-ABLE.

THE LIFE AND SOUL OF A GODLESS PAGAN IS HARDLY THE EQUAL OF ONE RIGHTEOUS BLOW...

...LAID ON BY THE HAND OF A SERAPHIM!

YOU UNGRATEFUL FANATIC--!

...

YOU...

!

...STOP!

AND WHAT ABOUT RAVENS-BANE'S VICTIMS?

OR IS HELPING MERE INNOCENT MORTALS IN TROUBLE BENEATH YOU?

THEY MAY THANK THE ALMIGHTY THAT- THEY ARE BENEATH MY NOTICE.

THEY SURROUND THEMSELVES WITH THE PLAYTHINGS OF WITCHCRAFT AND DEMONOLOGY, AND THEIR FATE IS JUST!

I...

SWOOP

...DISAGREE!

SO I'LL FREE THEM FROM THIS SPELL MYSELF.

WITH ALL THE ENERGY SEETHING AROUND HERE, THIS IS NO PLACE FOR NONCOMBATANTS.

WHAT--?

RAVENS-BANE!!!

TAKE YOUR FRIENDS AND GET OUT OF HERE...

...UNTIL THE MUSEUM'S BEEN QUIET FOR AT LEAST TWO DAYS.

AND DON'T RETURN WITHOUT AN *EXORCIST!*

WHAT IN--?

FLUT

...Ohh!

TA-TAA, LADIES!

SLAMM

RAVENSBANE-- *NOO!*

THE *TIME CRATE* IS TAKING HIM TO THE PAST!

WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM RIGHT *NOW*.

CONTINUED...